The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

——— *Vitiis Nemo ſine naſcitur, optimus ille*
Qui minimis urgetur. ——— Hor.

From *Thurſday November* 2. to *Saturday November* 4. 1710.

From my own Apartment, November 3.

WHEN one conſiders the Turn which Converſation takes in almoſt every Set of Acquaintance, Club, or Aſſembly in this Town or Kingdom, one cannot but obſerve, that in Spight of what I am every Day ſaying, and all the moral Writers ſince the Beginning of the World have ſaid, the Subject of Diſcourſe is generally upon one another's Faults. This in a great Meaſure proceeds from Self-Conceit, which were to be endured in one or other individual Perſon; but the Folly has ſpread it ſelf almoſt over all the Species, and one cannot only ſay, *Tom*, *Jack*, or *Will*, but in general, *that Man is a Coxcomb*. From this Source it is that any Excellence is faintly received, any Imperfection unmercifully expoſed. But if Things were put in a true Light, and we would take Time to conſider, that Man in his very Nature is an imperfect Being, our Senſe of this Matter would be immediately altered, and the Word *Imperfection* would not carry an unkinder Idea than the Word *Humanity*. It is a pleaſant Story, that we, forſooth, who are the only imperfect Creatures in the Univerſe, are the only Beings that will not allow of Imperfection. Some Body has taken Notice, that we ſtand in the Middle of Exiſtences, and are by this one Circumſtance the moſt unhappy of all others. The Brutes are guided by Inſtinct, and know no Sorrow; the Angels have Knowledge, and they are happy: But Men are governed by Opinion, which is I know not what Mixture of Inſtinct and Knowledge, and are neither indolent nor happy. It is very obſervable, that Criticks are a People between the Learned and the Ignorant, and by that Situation enjoy the Tranquillity of neither: As Criticks ſtand among Men, ſo do Men in general between Brutes and Angels. Thus every Man, as he is a Critick and a Coxcomb, till improved by Reaſon and Speculation, is ever forgetting himſelf, and laying open the Faults of others.

At the ſame Time that I am talking of the Cruelty of urging People's Faults with Severity, I cannot but bewail ſome which Men are guilty of for Want of Admonition. Theſe are ſuch as they can eaſily mend, and no Body tells them of; for which Reaſon I ſhall make Uſe of the Penny-Poſt (as I have with Succeſs to ſeveral young Ladies about turning their Eyes and holding up their Heads) to certain Gentlemen whom I remark habitually guilty of what they may reform in a Moment. There is a fat Fellow whom I have long remarked wearing his Breaſt open in the Midſt of Winter out of an Affectation of Youth: I have therefore ſent him juſt now the following Letter in my Phyſical Capacity.

SIR,

'FRom the 20th Inſtant to the Firſt of *May* next, both Days incluſive, I beg of you to button 'your Waſtcoat from your Collar to your Waſtband. I am,

Your moſt humble Servant,

Iſaac Bickerſtaff *Philomath*.

There is a very handſome well-ſhaped Youth that frequents the Coffee-houſes about *Charing-Croſs*, and ties a very pretty Riband with a Croſs of Jewels at his Breaſt. This being ſomething new, and a Thing in which the Gentleman may offend the *Heralds Office*, I have addreſſed my ſelf to him as I am Cenſor.

Dear Countryman,

'WAS that Enſign of Honour which you wear given you by a Prince or a Lady that you 'have ſerved? If you bear it as an abſent Lover, 'pleaſe to hang it on a Black Riband; if as a re-'warded Soldier, you have my Licence to continue 'the Red.

Your faithful Servant,

Bickerſtaff *Cenſor*.

Theſe little Intimations do great Service, and are very uſeful not only to the Perſons themſelves, but to inform others how to conduct themſelves towards them.

Inſtead of this honeſt private Method, or a friendly one Face to Face, of acquainting People with Things in their Power to explain or amend, the uſual Way among People is, to take no Notice of Things you can help, and nevertheleſs expoſe you for thoſe you cannot.

Plumbeus and *Levis* are conſtantly in each others Company: They would, if they took proper Methods, be very agreeable Companions; but they ſo extra-

extravagantly aim at what they are unfit for, and each of them rallies the other ſo much in the wrong Place, that inſtead of doing each other the Offices of Friends, they do but inſtruct the reſt of the World to laugh at them with more Knowledge and Skill. *Plumbeus* is of a ſaturnine and ſullen Complexion, *Levis* of a mercurial and airy Diſpoſition. Both theſe Gentlemen have but very ſlow Parts, but would make a very good Figure did they purſue what they ought. If *Plumbeus* would take to Buſineſs, he would in few Years know the Forms of Orders ſo well, as to direct and dictate with ſo much Eaſe, as to be thought a ſolid, able, and at the ſame Time a ſure Man of Diſpatch. *Levis*, with a little Reading, and coming more into Company, would ſoon be able to write a Song, or lead up a Country Dance. Inſtead of theſe proper Purſuits, in Obedience to their reſpective Genius's, *Plumbeus* endeavours to be the Man of Pleaſure, and *Levis* the Man of Buſineſs. This appears in their Speech and in their Dreſs: *Plumbeus* is ever egregiouſly fine, and talking ſomething like Wit; *Levis* is ever extremely grave, and with a ſilly Face repeating Maxims. Theſe two pardon each other for affecting what each is incapable of, the one to be wiſe, and the other gay; but are extreamly critical in their Judgments of each other in their Way towards what they pretend to. *Plumbeus* acknowledges *Levis* a Man of a great Reach, becauſe it is what *Plumbeus* never cared for being thought himſelf; and *Levis* allows *Plumbeus* to be an agreeable Rake for the ſame Reaſon. Now were theſe dear Friends to be free with each other as they ought to be, they would change Characters, and be both as commendable, inſtead of being as ridiculous, as their Capacities will admit of.

Were it not too grave, all that I would urge on this Subject, is, that Men are bewildered when they conſider themſelves in any other View than that of Strangers, who are in a Place where it is no great Matter whether they can, or unreaſonable to expect they ſhould, have every Thing about them as well as at their own Home. This Way of Thinking is, perhaps, the only one that can put this Being into a proper Poſture for the Eaſe of Society. It is certain this would reduce all Faults into thoſe which proceed from Malice or Diſhoneſty. It would quite change our Manner of beholding one another, and nothing that was not below a Man's Nature would be below his Character. The Arts of this Life would be proper Advances towards the next; and a very good Man would be a very fine Gentleman. As it now is, human Life is inverted, and we have not learned half the Knowledge of this World before we are dropping into another. Thus, inſtead of the Raptures and Contemplations which naturally attend a well-ſpent Life, from the Approach of Eternity, even we old Fellows are afraid of the Ridicule of thoſe who are born ſince us, and aſhamed not to underſtand, as well as peeviſh to reſign, the Mode, the Faſhion, the Ladies, the Fiddles, the Balls, and what not. *Dick Reptile*, who does not want Humour, is very pleaſant at our Club, when he ſees an old Fellow touchy at being laughed at for any Thing that is not in the Mode, and bawls in his Ear, *Prithee don't mind him, tell him thou art Mortal.*

Advertiſements.

AT the Two Brick Pillars on the Weſt Side of Kenſington-Square, a very handſome Houſe and Garden, being an Eſtate of Inheritance, is to be ſold or let, furniſhed or unfurniſhed. Enquire of Mr. Rampane, Attorney at Law, near the Bull-Tavern in King-ſtreet, Weſtminſter, or at the Houſe.

ALL Sorts of fine Silks and Mercery Goods for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. a Ticket, and ſold as cheap as for Specie, at the Eagle and Child on Ludgate Hill.

AT the GREAT WHEAT-SHEAF painted upon a Copper Plate, next the Bell-Savage-Inn on Ludgate-hill, are ſold all Sorts of rich Foreign Silk, with Gold and Silver Brocades: Likewiſe plain and flower'd Velvets for Gowns and Petticoats, and Coach Linings; with all Sorts of Silk Morning-Gowns, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at as high a Price as any Perſon ſhall give for them, and the aboveſaid Goods as cheap as for Specie.

PHill. Baſs, at the Black Lion on Ludgate-hill, ſelleth all Sorts of rich Silks, and fine Dutch ſtained Sattins, rich Silk Morning-Gowns, and all Sorts of Mercery Goods, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at as high a Price as any Perſon ſhall take them for, and the aboveſaid Goods as cheap as for Specie.

Morning-Gowns for Men and Women, of Silk, Stuffs, and Callicoe's (being the Goods of Perſons that failed) which were to be diſpoſed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be ſold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over-againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs; with a freſh Parcel at very low Rates, the Price being ſet on each Gown.

WHereas the Sale of the Leaſe of the Five Bells Tavern, &c. in the Strand, publiſhed and intended to be laſt Thurſday, the ſame is adjourned till next Wedneſday at Four a Clock; and the aforeſaid may be viewed and taſted on next Monday and Tueſday from 8 to 1, and from 2 to 6, and all Wedneſday till the Hour of Sale.

ALL Sorts of rich Brocaded Silks, Japanned Sattins, Thread Sattins, and Variety of other Things made into Morning-Gowns, large and well lined, being a freſh clean Parcel, and to be ſold very cheap, at Mrs. Attaway's, a Capmaker and Milliner, in Devereux-Court, in the Paſſage from the Temple to Eſſex-Buildings. Note, There are Gowns from 7 l. to 1 l. Price, and the loweſt Price writ on each.

JOhn Clark, Writing-Maſter, is removed from Wood-ſtreet to the Hand and Pen in Warwick-lane, by whom any Perſon may be taught Merchants Accompts, or the true Italian Method of Book-keeping, as now approved of by the Chief Accomptants and Traders in Europe. Such whoſe Buſineſs will not permit them to come in the Day time, may be taught by him every Monday, Wedneſday and Friday Evening from 6 to 8 a Clock at his Houſe; where alſo young Gentlemen are boarded.

A Moſt incomparable Paſt for the Hands, far exceeding any Thing ever yet in Print; it makes them moſt delicately white, ſlick, and plump, fortifies them againſt the Sharpneſs of the Air, or Scorching of the Fire; a Hand cannot be ſo ſpoiled but the conſtant Uſe of this Paſt will recover it. Sold only at Mr. Allcroft's, Toy-ſhop, over-againſt the Royal-Exchange, at 1 s. 6 d. the Pot, with Directions.

MRs. Symonds's Sale of heavy Plate and other valuable Goods, which are to be ſeen at the Naked Boy and Coat in Henrietta-ſtreet being very near full, all Gentlemen and Ladies are deſired to be ſpeedy in taking out Tickets, which are to be had at the Houſe above-mentioned, at Mr. Sybalt's, Silkman, near the Conduit in Cheapſide, Mr. Lilline's at the Corner of Beaufort-Buildings, Croſs's Coffee-houſe in Cary-ſtreet, Lincoln's-Inn-fields, Mr. Bate's at the Hat and Star, a Cane-ſhop, in Bookſellers row in St. Paul's Church-yard, and all the other Places mentioned in the Propoſals.

A Twelvepenny Sale of Plate to be diſpoſed of by Way of Lots at Mrs. Stanton's, Mantua-maker, in Hart-ſtreet, Cripplegate, where the Plate may be ſeen, viz. One large Silver Teapot, Frame, and Lamp, Milk-pot, Mug, Porringer, Spoons, Tea-Spoons, Nutmeg-Graters, Patch-Boxes, and other Plate. The firſt and laſt drawn Tickets, if not a Prize, to have a Gold Ring each. Tickets to be had at the Place above, and at Mr. Morris's, the Golden Falcon in Fetter-Lane; Mr. Jeve's in Vere-ſtreet, by Clare-Market: Mr. Tooly's at the George in Piccadilly; Mr. Lord's at the Chair and Chairmen in New-Palace-yard, Weſtminſter; Mr. Crick at the White-Dragon in Devereux-Court by Eſſex-ſtreet; Mr. Benyon's at the Cock and Lion in Biſhopſgate-ſtreet; Mr. Lewis's at the Crown and Cuſhion in Threadneedle-ſtreet; Mr. Holms's at the Roſe in Row-ſtreet, Newgate-Market. Notice to be given Three Days before Drawing. Higheſt Prize 9 l. loweſt 2 s. 6 d.

NOtice is hereby given, That Mrs. Ogle's Catalogue of Plate, 20 l. for 6 d. will be drawn without fail on the 8th Inſtant. There being ſome Tickets ſtill to be diſpos'd of, they may be had at Mrs. Ogle's againſt Mountague-houſe; at Mr. Sedgwick's, Hair-Cutter, in the Strand; at Mr. Green's, a Hatter, at the Catherine Wheel Inn in the Borough of Southwark; at Mr. Ralt's at the Black Lion in Shoemakers-row near Aldgate; at Joe's Coffee-houſe, Hatton-Garden; at Mrs. Carter's, a Butter-Woman, in Clare-Market by Clement's-Inn; and at Mr. Bumſtad's, a Furrier, at the White-Lion and Crown in Walbrook.

FOR a Publick Good I do hereby declare, That upon the Uſe of a Remedy I had of Mr. Perroner, Surgeon, in Dyot-ſtreet, Bloomsbury, my Child was immediately relieved, tho' in the greateſt Extremity of Pain, and Danger of Life, by the hard Breeding of Teeth, and in a few Hours after cut ſeveral of 'em with much Eaſe and Safety. Witneſs my Hand, William Allen, Grocer, at the two Black-moors Heads over-againſt Surry-ſtreet in the Strand. This excellent Remedy is ſold at 2 s. 6 d. per Vial, by Mr. Perroner aforeſaid, Mr. Alcott at the Blue-Coat-Boy againſt the Royal Exchange, Cornhill, and Mr. Watkings, Tobacconiſt, againſt the Market in King-ſtreet, Weſtminſter.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where Advertiſements are taken in.